

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

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O 221220Z AUG 75 ZDG

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 3803

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 918

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, MZ

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE - US RELATIONS

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 899

1. DURING DINNER WITH FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO, LATTER EXPLAINED TO CODEL CLARK FRELIMO PERSPECTIVE OF HISTORY OF MOZAMBIQUE - US RELATIONS DURING PAST FEW MONTHS. AMONG THE POINTS HE MADE WERE:

A) DELAY IN REPLY TO PRESIDENT FORD'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT MACHEL WAS NOT CONSIDERED ACTION ON PART OF GPRM. GPRM WAS WAS SWAMPED WITH MESSAGES, SOME OF WHICH MUCH TO THEIR EMBARRASSMENT HAVE BEEN LOST. CHISSANO SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED MESSAGE FROM SWAZILAND, REPLY TO WHICH JUST WENT OUT.

B) GPRM VIEW OF US CONSULAR PRESENCE: ALL FOREIGN CONSULATES IN MOZAMBIQUE WERE ADVISED BY THE PORTUGUESE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO CLOSE DOWN BY JUNE 25, DATE OF MOZAMBIQUE'S INDEPENDENCE. IN ADDITION, FRELIMO SENT OUT THE WORD THROUGH THE GRAFHDDDFHCHGF (OMMISSION IN TEXT HERE (GARBLED) CORRECTION TO FOLLOW WHEN RECVD --

HIIT IT EXPECTED ALL THE TOP CONSULAR PERSONNEL (CODEL INTERPRETED THIS TO MEAN CONSUL GENERAL) TO DEPART PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE AND THAT REPLACEMENT SHOULD NOT BE SENT UNTIL AGREEMENT ON DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR RELATINS REACHED WITH NEW GPRM
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GOVERNMENT. EVIDENTLY, AMERICANS AND BRITISH DID NOAAT

(GARBLE IN TEXT HERE)

THEM THAT PETER C. WALKER, PERSON FRELIMO HAD INDIRECTLY INDICATED SHOULD LEAVE, WOULD BE IN CHARGE OF OUR MISSION UNTIL AGREEMENT REACHED ON APPOINTMENT OF NEW AMBASSADOR. FRELIMO EVIDENTLY BELIEVED THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN CONSULTED WHETHER APPOINTMENT OF WALKER AS CHARGE WAS AGREEABLE. NONTHELESS, THEY CHOSE TO IGNORE WALKER'S CONTINUED PRESENCE IN LOURENCO MARQUES.

AUGUST 12 LETTER FROM WALKER ADVISING FOREIGN MINISTER OF HIS FORTHCOMING DEPARTURE FORCED THEM TO TAKE COGNIZANCE THAT US HAD MAINTAINED OFFICIAL PRESENCE IN LOURENCO MARQUES CONTRARY TO THEIR WISHES. FURTHERMORE, WALKER MADE IT CLEAR THAT HIS FUNCTIONS WERE BEING TAKEN OVER BY RANDOLPH REED AND THAT THERE WOULD BE NO BREAK IN OFFICIAL US PRESENCE IN LOURENCO MARQUES. AS RESULT, GPRM FELT IT HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO REPLY PER REFTEL.

C) LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, CHISSANO ASSURED CODEL HE WAS PREPARING ALL THE DOCUMENTATION NECESSARY FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE US AND SAID HE WOULD BRING IT WITH HIM WHEN HE GOES TO NEW YORK TO ATTEND THE UNGA. HE SAID HE HOPED ALL FORMALITIES COULD BE COMPLETED AT THAT TIME.

2. CODEL BELIEVES ONLY QUESTION UNANSWERED REGARDING GPRM LETTER (REFTEL) IS WHETHER, BY BEING MENTIONED IN AUGUST 12 LETTER, GPRM WOULD PREFER THAT I BE WITHDRAWN, THUS ESTABLISHING CLEAN BREAK BETWEEN OUR OLD PRESENCE AND ANY NEW RELATIONSHIP WHICH WILL BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN MOZAMBIQUE AND THE US. IN VIEW RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, THEY RECOMMEND, AND WE CONCUR, AGAINST OUR REPLYING TO GPRM LETTER. THEY WILL INFORMALLY TELL APPROPRIATE GPRM OFFICIAL THAT, PURSUANT TO THEIR SUBJECT LETTER, MR. WALKER HAS DEPARTED MOZAMBIQUE AND THAT OUR MISSION IS NOT CONDUCTING ANY CONSULAR ACTIVITIES. HOPEFULLY, MATTER OF PERSONNEL WILL BE CLARIFIED WHEN CHISSANO MEETS WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS DURING UNGA. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT BILATERAL MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY
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BE SET UP DURING UNGA. IN THE MEANTIME, IN VIEW OF INSECURITY OF OFFICIAL PRESENCE IN MOZAMBIQUE, WE WILL MAINTAIN LOW PROFILE AND KEEP CLASSIFIED MATERIAL ON HAND TO MINIMUM.
REED

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